

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

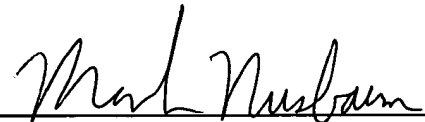
In response to the Examiner's Amendment, minor additional changes have been made to claims 1 and 4 to place them in better form for issuance. The claims presented herein include the changes made in the Examiner's Amendment.

The changes to the claims made by Examiner's Amendment were made to eliminate the "means plus function" language in the claims.

The Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance is construed by the applicants as an acknowledgement by the Examiner that the claimed invention as a whole, including the quoted language, is not disclosed or suggested by the cited prior art.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
Mark E. Nusbaum
Reg. No. 32,348

MEN:mg
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100